



# *APD NEWS*

Public Information Office: (512) 974-5017

715 E. 8<sup>th</sup> St. Austin, Texas 78701

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**March 26, 2010**

**Contact:** Public Information Office, 974-5017

### **North Detectives charge man in purse snatchings**

**Date:** January 2010-March 2010

**Time:** Daylight hours

**Location:** Grocery store parking lots

#### **Narrative:**

Since early March 2010 there have been more than five reported cases of purses being stolen out of shopping carts while women are loading groceries into their vehicles. All of the cases have occurred in Austin-area grocery store parking lots.

On Thursday, March 25, 2010, Austin Police North Bureau Detectives charged and arrested a man in connection with several of these purse snatchings.

The man arrested has been identified as Justin Bernard McCain, black male (D.O.B. 11-12-86).

He has been charged with 2 counts of Theft from Person in both Travis and Williamson Counties. Additionally, he has been charged with one count of Possession of Identifying Documents. All three charges are State Jail Felonies.

Detectives are still working some unsolved cases where there could be more suspects.

To minimize the chances of becoming a victim of this type of crime, the Austin Police Department suggests the following:

Be aware of your surroundings before you unload your groceries. If you see someone following you, go back into the store and call 911.

Once at your car, put your purse in the car before your groceries.



# *APD NEWS*

Public Information Office: (512) 974-5017

715 E. 8<sup>th</sup> St. Austin, Texas 78701

If your purse is snatched, do not try to grab for the purse. Also be sure to call 911 immediately and then notify your financial institutions.

Anyone with information is asked to call the North Bureau Detectives at 512-974-5749, Crimestoppers at 512-472-TIPS or text TIP103 to CRIMES (274637).

**Media Advisory:** A booking photo of McCain is attached.

####

